

FEMA INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION

America's PrepareAthon! 2016 Hurricane Animation Final Script & Key
Messages

April 22, 2016

When the Waves Swell

When the waves swell,
the wind blows
and rain starts to pour,
you’ll ask yourself how prepared
or unprepared are you? 5

Did you board your windows?
Protect your home?
Secure loose objects
so they won’t blow away. 9

Bring large items in
and low items up.
If you’re properly prepared,
it will help in a big way. 13

Does your family have a plan?
Do they know what to do?
Is your emergency kit packed?
Waiting by the door for you? 17

Just because you’re not on the coast
doesn’t mean you’re okay.
Heavy winds and flooding
can wash things away. 21

When a hurricane is near,
you need to stay safe.
Turn on the radio.
Wait for updates. 25

Only leave your home
if told so.
Grab your bag.
And go, go, go. 29

Now if you’re home
and the heavy wind blows.
Get away from the windows.
Watch out for flooding.
And protect yourself. 34

You may be without power
for a couple days.
But your emergency kit
should help you to stay. 38

Once the storm is gone
and it’s safe to go home,
be cautious of what’s going on.
If water is in your path,
you have to turn back.43

Dangerous electricity
and things you can’t see.
Can hurt you very badly. 46

So before the waves swell,
the wind blows
and rain starts to pour,
get prepared,
make a plan, and protect yourself
each and every way. 52

America’s PrepareAthon!
Be Smart. Take Part. Prepare. 54

Get started today.
Go to ready dot gov slash prepare 56

HURRICANE | KEY MESSAGE POINTS

- Hurricanes include strong winds, heavy rain that may cause slow flooding or flash flooding, and storm surge. *(Show storm surge visual with super of words.)*
- The occurrence of flooding both inland and along the coast.
- Flooding can occur from slowly inundating low areas, as rivers or streams and overflow their banks or very rapidly as water rushes downhill or through city culverts causing rapid erosion and sweeping away roads or things in the path.

BEFORE A HURRICANE

- Stay informed (alerts, apps, radio, TV).
- Pack “go bag” for quick evacuation. *(Use items from page 5 and ensure the bag is already packed.)*
- Stock up on emergency supplies. *(Refer to winter animation for items and relate the idea that you may go without power and water for days.)*
- Have a family emergency plan. *(Less important for hurricane, but still mention.)*
- Secure outdoor items *(e.g., propane tanks)* or move inside *(e.g., patio furniture)* to protect yourself and your property from damage. Board up your windows.
- Review insurance policy, document property *(take pictures)* and put critical documents in a safe location.

DURING A HURRICANE

- If advised to evacuate, grab “go bag” and leave immediately.
- Drive on designated evacuation routes.
- Never walk or drive on flooded roads or moving water. “Turn Around Don’t Drown”
- If you are home, stay away from windows and glass doors during high winds, and move your belongings to a higher location for safety from flooding.

AFTER A HURRICANE

- If you evacuated, do not return to the area until authorities say it is okay to do so.
- Do not re-enter a damaged building until a professional deems it safe.
- Be mindful of dangerous environment, which may include damaged buildings, as well as trees, and poles that can fall, gas leaks, and wet or damaged electrical equipment or wires.
- Protect yourself while cleaning up—wear gloves, thick-soled shoes, and a mask.
- Visit ready.gov/prepare for more information.

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